

Boston Dec 15. 1836.

Thursday evening.

Dear Deborah,

I will begin mechanically or otherwise. I shall omit some things that you would wish to hear. I have not written since last Wednesday week. That day Mary Ann came from Hingham and was very sorry to have missed of you. Mr. Child came in the evening. He appeared much as usual asked for you, disputed about every thing, and argued with Maria & had so much the advantage of her that Henry was quite discomfited, and as he told us afterwards, "he had some thoughts of turning him out of doors." Thursday, Aunt Mary & I went over to Cambridge to dine with Professor Longfellow. Before I went, I called at the Amnidons but all were out. When I got there I found that Professor L. could not come till the next day, so I concluded to stay till the next day. I had a good time reading Delphine and the Naval Annual. Delphine is a disgraceful book. I am astonished that Mad de Stael could have written any thing so weak. The Naval Annual by Murray is amusing. Friday morning I called at Mrs. Metcalf and saw Lydell & explained. Another Longfellow came as expected & the dinner was very fine. He is a good natured, gentle, manly person, very good intelligent manner. But his face & appearance is any thing but poetical, and at all interesting. He talked some about Italy and Germany and Catholicism & was in fine, what is called pleasant. In the evening John read aloud in the new book of Junip. It is, I think, a palimpsest imitation of the Corner Stone Epistle as well done either. Saturday, I returned to Boston, bought a pretty little book, bound in silk and presented in another sent it to Maria. I gave for it 67 cts. In the afternoon Edwina went out to Weymouth with Henry Cowing in order to talk over her Colman affair. Sunday morning I went to the Free Church & heard Mr. Fitch who preached a rather mediocre person. In the afternoon somehow or other I was

moved to go down to Salem Street. Lucretia & Mary Ann offered
to accompany me & off we started. The sexton shewed us to the
front pew. The moment I heard the sound of the man's voice
I knew he was an Abolitionist. His prayer was very fine. He
prayed "for all, by whatever name they are called, who remember
those in bonds as bound with them" He prayed forth po-
tently on behalf of all such that I knew he must be
an agent. His text was "Be not partakers of other men's sins
and a most powerful sermon it was. He did not expressly
mention Slavery & yet it was as powerful a sermon as if he
had. He alluded expressly to using "the produce of unpaid
labour" as being partakers of other men's sins. In his last prayer
he prayed again "for all who were labouring to raise our
trod-den & deep-seated humanity" and then said "Oh Lord we
need all thy grace to discharge this work". If you add to
all this that he was graceful & elegant in style & ex-
pression, and sometimes eloquent, very interesting (that
is exactly the word) in his personal appearance, and ap-
parently as pure and good as may be, you will not wonder
that I was perfectly distressed to find out who he was. I
asked one or two who did not know, finally I discovered.
He was the Rev Mr Torrance of Amesbury one of those whom
Wells has unsettled. I learn that they design giving him a
call at Mr Blagden's at least, some of them do. I hope
most sincerely that this may be the case; it would be de-
lightful to me to run down to Salem Street 3 times a Sun-
day to hear him. Lucretia & Mary Ann were no less charmed.
Monday morning Caroline returned. She left all well at Wey-
mouth. No very smart. She came to the conclusion that if Mr B
would come up to her terms she should go, but pay nothing else
at present. In the morning I went to the Rooms and coming
home met Mr Winslow who was very civil and walked part
way up street with me. We got your letter in the afternoon &
were exceedingly glad to hear of your safe arrival. Just
at night, we received a note from E. Sampson informing us that
Aunt M was quite ill & that one of our ^{most} ~~dear~~ friends ^{must} come over that
night. Caroline went off immediately. She returned the next day
reporting that Aunt Mary seemed to have been threatened
with a fever, but was better and wanted me to come over

Accordingly on Tuesday morning I went off and found Aunt
M quite poorly. I staid all night & though she was better the
next day yet I did not think it proper to go over to Boston. The
Owens were polite & kind in the extreme. I was treated with
all kindness and had quite a good time. The Maicks were
there in the evening. Maria looks very matronly. They
seem to be getting along pretty well. This morning I re-
turned to Boston, bring Mrs Aunt Mary with me. She is
now much better though still weak & poorly. I think she
has had a bad influenza. Lucia has a bad cold, all the
rest are pretty well. Aunt Mary sends her love but does not
feel able to write, as I can tell you every thing. I find that
Hildreth was here again last night. What he is doing
now I can't tell. Maria made some allusion to the Abolition
novel that was forth coming and M said that Eastburn
was going to give the whole matter up, that he did not dare
to publish it, that it was written in the spirit of
Walker's pamphlet. Caroline thought that Hildreth
manifested great confusion. Now I will give you a
little general news. Melanin was married yesterday morn-
ing. No one was present but the Russell family. Not
even Martha Dana. Mrs Howe & Anne were the bride people.
M wore a light silk, inside red & white ribbon. M. W.
low married them though M. L. was present. After the
marriage Mr Howe & Anne went over to the Port with
them & dined & returned & left her to her fate. I learned
these particulars this afternoon by calling on Anne. The
poor thing seemed rather low & spiritless as was natural.
And now, my child I have a wonderful piece of news
to tell you. Ann Ferry is engaged & to — Wendell Phil-
lips. Yes, wonder as you may, it is true. I will give you
a little more special account. It appears that they travelled
together last summer & that he was very kind & amiable.
Since she came back, he has called once or twice but as
she was sick she was denied to him. After Mrs Alvord re-
turned, he came to see her & learning how ill Ann was
he fell into great distress & came straight to M. C. & insisted

upon seeing her. Ann at this time was at the worst
& at first, I thought she could not see him, but finally
she consented. I use Maria's language "He went up
stairs, saw her alone 20 minutes, & came down a Tranced
Ever since that time, he has been & passed 2 hours
with her each day, & she is getting much better. We can't
help hoping that she is really better. Tell the Parents of
this piece of news, but don't tell any particulars. It is to
be supposed that they were engaged while on their
journey. The Fair is to be Thursday next. We have obtained
the Artists Gallery for \$10. Mrs Child has returned; she
seems rather low spirited. The Philanthropist has just
come to hand. It states that Mr Birney has just re-
ceived a letter from Dr Channing which will appear
in his next. I send you must let go & a collection of
yours & all the other things I believe, but the velvet.

Waren has gone for your Clock but has not
yet returned. If you will let me know where
Nap Bailey will be staying I will call on her. All
your things that don't come will be prevented by some
unforeseen accident. Love to all at N. B.

I will come to N. B. at the time you think best.

Write very soon. Most faithfully yrs

Amie.

ea

nt

5

ie

e.

e

Miss Deborah Weston.
New Bedford.
Mass.

over
envelope

